

# St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Ballarat

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B – 28<sup>th</sup> April



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**Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10.00am – 3.00pm**

The phone will be transferred to the on-call priest so that Hospitals, Aged Care facilities, Funeral Directors or others seeking the services of a priest may be responded to.

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*St Patrick's Cathedral Parish acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin nation.*

*We are a child safe Parish following the Child Safe Standards outlined by the Victorian Government, implementing procedures and standards as directed by the Professional Standards Office of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.*

**Bishop of Ballarat:**  
Most Rev Paul Bird CSsR  
**Parish Administrator:**  
Fr Ed Moloney  
**Assistant Priests:**  
Fr James McKay  
Fr Francis Kureeckal MST  
**Priest in Charge of Syro Malabar Community:**  
Fr Alex Valliyamthadathil  
**Parish Secretary**  
**Sacramental Coordinator**  
Tony Beggs  
**Finance Officer:**  
Bernadette Prestwood  
**Safeguarding Officers:**  
Tony Beggs/Maria Noonan

## **Readings this week: Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B (28<sup>th</sup> April)**

**First:** Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31    **Second:** 1 John 3:18-24    **Gospel:** John 15:1-8

## **Readings next week: Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B (5<sup>th</sup> May)**

**First:** Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26,34-35,44-48    **Second:** 1 John 4:7-10    **Gospel:** John 15:9-17



## **RECENT DEATHS:**

Ian Chandler, David Lourey, John McRory, Rachael Murnane,  
Leo O'Sullivan, Joe Ryan

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Edmund Baker, Edward Broadhead, Geoffrey Bruty, Elizabeth Cloney, James Cloney,  
Mavis Conway, Gerard Cullinan, Andrew Currie, Sr Christine Daly,  
Bryan Dumaresq, Glenda Fry, Ellen Huggett, Kevin Keys, Julie Kramer, Emma-Kate  
McGrath, Annie McMillian, Giuseppe Munaretto, Amy Neville, Ellen O'Loughlin,  
Mario Perovic, William 'Bill' Rinaldi OAM, Geoffrey Ross, William Ryan,  
Frank Stodolny, Gerard Sullivan, Andrew Verberne (snr), Christopher Waight,  
Eric Wellards, Roland Woof, Joseph Wuestewald

**Responsorial Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

## Reflection on the Gospel-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B

(John 15:1-8)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Life's experiences teach us that, as members of the Earth community, we cannot make it on our own. We need one another, other living beings, the sun, the soil, the water and everything else that formed from exploding stars in the distant past. The gospel reading reminds us that as baptised Christians we are not just intimately interlinked but that the source of our unity is the Risen Christ. As limbs and leaves and sap of the same vine, we simply cannot survive in isolation.

The vine image picks up one of the most potent biblical images for God's relationship to the people of Israel. It is an image of life and growth, of colour and vibrancy. It holds the promise of a life-sustaining grape harvest that is ultimately transformed into wine, the biblical symbol for joy. Our gardener God brought Israel "the vine" out of Egypt (Psalm 80:9). For the prophet Isaiah, Israel is also a vineyard planted and nurtured by God (5:1-7; 27:3). For Jeremiah, Israel is the choice vine "of fully tested stock" planted by God (2:21).

The Johannine Jesus makes the claim: "I am the true vine/vineyard" and God is the "vinegrower". Jesus wants to distance himself from the ostentatious artificial golden vine that adorned the entrance to the sanctuary. He goes further: "I am the vine/vineyard and you are the branches". The potency of this image resides in the fact that a vine without branches is inconceivable. It draws us into the mystery of the mutual interchange of life between us and the risen Christ, into the mystery of God. It also invites us to acknowledge our interconnection with the whole of the Earth community, to nurture the wonderful biodiversity of our planet, and to accept the inevitability of "pruning" if we are to "bear fruit" and "become disciples".

"Pruning" can take various forms. A chance encounter, a sudden inspiration, a word from a friend, an unexpected illness, a confronting story: any such experience can bring us to our senses and serve as a "pruning" device. The first reading for today recounts the story of Saul of Tarsus who is "pruned" quite dramatically through his encounter with the Risen Christ on the road to Damascus. He is transformed from persecutor to defender of Christ and Christ's followers. Saul becomes a disciple and "bears much fruit". The Greek-speaking Christian Jews are suspicious, even murderous, when he tries to preach the gospel among them. Peace ensues, however, and the movement takes hold in the regions where Jesus had first preached the gospel. It is worth reflecting on the cultural diversity that characterised earliest Christianity and the tensions that had to be resolved between different language groups or groups of different ethnic origin for the gospel to flourish and bear fruit. John's gospel is written against the backdrop of such "pruning" within the early communities. Sometimes the requisite "pruning" is hearing respectfully a point of view that differs from one's own.

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### St Patrick's Parish Catholic Earthcare

The Earthcare group is currently working towards finalising our Parish Action Plan.



Thank you to Fr Ed and the dedicated Parishioners who have volunteered their time to contribute to the plan.

We invite Indigenous Parish community members to share their ideas and further our collective understanding of caring for our common home.

Please leave your contact details at the Parish Office or email [caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:caritas@ballarat.catholic.org.au)



# Of Hours of Grace 2024

**ASH WEDNESDAY to PENTECOST SUNDAY**

*February 14th  
to 19th May*

Eucharistic Adoration in  
Parishes, Schools, Universities  
and Hospitals across Australia

***Come and enjoy a grace-filled hour with our Lord in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament:***

**Anytime between 5.30pm to 9pm on TUESDAY 30th APRIL**

**At St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat Central**

**Come for a beautiful time of prayer, music, reflective worship and restful silence**

- We pray for Pope Francis and the Australian church leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit, they may share the gospel and bring unity and peace to Australia, Oceania, and beyond.
- We pray for healing in families. May the Holy Spirit inspire spouses to keep marriages sacred and help all recognise the vital role of mothers and fathers.
- We pray for the young people in Australia to embrace Christ through personal encounters, answering their missionary call with a desire to be set apart for mission and service.
- We pray for world leaders to be led by the Holy Spirit, striving for peace, harmony, wisdom, and conflict resolution.
- We pray for all the initiatives of Jesus Youth Australia, especially the missions in Oceania and the Yes Lord National Conference 2024.

### **Catholic Theological College upcoming events**

**Engaging Your Faith online seminar series:** Nine stand-alone sessions on a range of themes will be presented by members of our lecturing staff. These sessions would be an ideal opportunity for you or someone you know to explore the possibilities offered at CTC for personal, theological and spiritual development. Cost is \$25.00 per session: General audience.

For more details go to <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/>

**Austin Cooper Symposium:** Catholic Theological College invites you to a hybrid symposium in honour of the Rev Professor Austin Cooper OMI AM (1931 – 2023) founding Master of CTC, historian, formator and ecumenical friend. The symposium will feature speakers exploring Fr Austin's various contributions to Christian scholarship and formation and as spiritual friend to so many. <https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/conferences-and-symposiums/>

## **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of the Word Online Training Programs**

The ACU Centre for Liturgy, which is endorsed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, offers online training programs for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of the Word. The next Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion program will begin on April 9 and Ministers of the Word program will begin on June 4. Both programs will be available again at various times throughout the year. For registration details and more information go to

<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/institutes-academies-and-centres/acu-centre-for-liturgy/pastoral-training>

## **Corpus Christ Seminary Enquiry Day**

Corpus Christi Seminary, Melbourne is hosting an Enquiry Day on Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 10.45am for those thinking about the priesthood. Please register to attend by email [Diane.Carey@cam.org.au](mailto:Diane.Carey@cam.org.au).

For more information contact Fr Ed Moloney, Diocesan Vocations Committee [ed.moloney@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:ed.moloney@ballarat.catholic.org.au).

## **Morning Tea after 10.30am Mass next week**

The monthly post-Mass morning tea will be held following the 10.30am Mass. All welcome. Come along to the MacKillop/Glowrey rooms for a cuppa and some home baking.

## **Catholic Women's League Account correction**

An error was noticed on the last advert on the fundraiser for the seminarians. Account should be Ballarat Cathedral CWL BSB 633000 Account 213717655

## **Ballarat Diocesan Committee CWL**

Keep the date free - Retreat/Reflection Day Thursday May 23<sup>rd</sup>. 9.15am Registration Mass 12.05pm Crowning of Our Lady on the eve of memorial of Our Lady Help of Christians. Concluding 3.30pm. Registration \$20

## **PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS**

**First Collection** - \$ 2899.60

(Presbytery - Priest support)

**Second Collection** - \$ 1661.55

**Tap & Go** - \$ 565.02

(Parish - Online & Collection - buildings, office, admin, grounds and maintenance)

## **WEEKDAY MASSES**

**Monday** – 12.05pm

**Tuesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**Wednesday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**Thursday** – 7.00am, 12.05pm

**Friday** - 12.05pm

*(Reconciliation at 10.30am until midday)*

**Saturday** - 10.00am

*(Reconciliation at 10.30am)*

## **WEEKEND MASSES**

**Saturday** 5.30pm Vigil

**Sunday** 8.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm

## **DEVOTIONS**

**Monday-Saturday** Morning Prayer 7.30am

**Monday-Friday** Evening Prayer 5.00pm

### **Monday/Tuesday**

11.20am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

### **Wednesday**

11.20am Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet,

Litany to St Joseph

6.00pm-7.00pm Holy Hour & Benediction

### **Thursday**

11.15am Divine Mercy Devotion

**Friday** 11.00am to 12.00pm -

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Silent Prayer

**Saturday** after 10.00 am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

\*changes may occur due to Funerals/Liturgical events

## **PARISH CALENDAR THIS WEEK**

### **Tuesday**

5.30-9.00pm Hours of Grace

### **Wednesday**

1.00pm Legion of Mary

### **Thursday**

10am/5.30pm Baptism preparation

### **Sunday**

10.30 Cuppa after Mass

6.00pm Youth Group